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## NOTES FROM THE PHILIPPINES

*By James A. Robertson, L.H.D., Librarian of the Philippine Library, Manila, P. I.*

Considered with relation to race development, the Philippine Islands offer at the present time one of the most interesting and valuable fields of study in the world. For here, within the last dozen years, have been set in motion new forces, or new directions given to old forces, the outcome of which is still problematical, and of the efficacy of which there is still honest doubt in many quarters. There is a seething of the pot of humanity here such as was never before known in this archipelago, and indeed in not many places in the orient. The ferment of a powerful leaven has begun its work, and these islands are passing through a period to them never before equalled in intensity.

The importance, direction, and effects of the struggle it were easy enough to exaggerate and overrate, or even to mistake. We Americans are rather prone to look upon our work and pronounce it good, and to regard our own customs and institutions as the best in the world, being in this respect not unlike the Chinese. This characteristic has arisen in great part from optimism bred up under peculiar pioneer conditions. To those who criticise the course of the United States in the Islands (leaving aside the question of right of occupancy about which many good men cannot agree), and find fault because the colonizing policy of no other nation (especially that of Great Britain) has been followed in its entirety, it is sufficient to point to this pioneer record. Viewed in that light, the course followed here could not have been different.

It must be recognized that in part the changed conditions here are the logical result of forces first set in motion noticeably near the opening of the nineteenth century with the

coming to the Philippines of Spaniards of advanced ideas, plus various other factors of that century, such as better methods of communication, the travel and study of Filipino youth in Europe, and better opportunities for education here. It must also be recognized that some institutions in the Philippines regarded by many as quite new had their parallel in very early Spanish days. The efficacy and formative value of such factors at the present time lies not in their newness, but in their direction and dynamic force.

Considered with respect to the Filipino, the efforts being expended here are of value only to the degree that they tend toward his material, mental, and spiritual welfare and advancement. If they make him more efficient in his three-fold development; if through them he becomes more fit to compete with other peoples: the equation is plus. If, on the contrary, nothing of a positive value is added to him, then the American experiment must be called a failure, or it must be said that the Filipino is incapable of advance. Failure is not yet announced, and most certainly the Filipino, as history distinctly shows, is not irresponsive to opportunity. It is, in a sense, somewhat arrogant to speak of one people as uplifting another. There has been much useless and insipid vamping about "the white man's burden," as if the white man had a monopoly on everything that is good and desirable. Paternalism in government is still perhaps too plainly apparent. The progress of any people, to be real and lasting, must be the seizing of opportunity, and the assimilation of the good that is offered by that opportunity. To the degree that opportunity arises from the people themselves, so much the more rapid and solid must be the ultimate advance. The placing of opportunity by one people before another, where it has not risen from the people themselves, constitutes the only "burden" or mission of one people to another, and who shall say that in the placing of it a corresponding opportunity is not grasped, or a distinct character-growth made?

Touching the Philippines various questions naturally arise. How far are the American ideals applicable to, or desirable for, the Filipino? Is the result to be merely a

veneer, or will something really substantial be added to the Filipino nature and character? Can three centuries of Spanish possession, during which Spanish ideals were inculcated to a certain extent, be overcome; and if so, is it desirable? Is the American talk of progress only egotistical bombast? Must there not be a mutual benefit to character in the communication between peoples? How far should assimilation or contact go? What is the effect of racial feeling or racial difference?

No attempt will be made to answer these questions directly or many others that present themselves. It is possible that an answer to some of them may be suggested in the following pages. We are not especially concerned with those abstract questions that have puzzled many honest men. We are confronted with the single fact of American occupancy of the Philippines, and American efforts here; and this paper concerns itself with the bare recital of some of the things that are being attempted and done which have within themselves the possibilities of racial improvement.

I shall restrict myself quite narrowly to the Filipinos proper, and shall not touch at all upon the Negritos, wild Malayan tribes, or Moros. By the term "Filipinos" is to be understood the descendants of the eight divisions or peoples who were Christianized (at least nominally) by the Spaniards. A Malayan people, they resemble, more or less closely, in character and language, the peoples of the Malay Peninsula, Java, Sumatra, and other islands. The Filipinos, however, of all oriental tropical peoples, stand in a class by themselves, for they are the only large body of tropical people who have been Christianized in modern times, and who have very largely (although somewhat imperfectly) adopted Christian standards and ideals. For over three centuries they have had contact with an occidental nation (although it is true that the Spaniards are themselves tinged with orientalism), and the effect of that contact distinguishes them very largely from all other races of the orient; for this contact, especially as regards religion, was so intimate that it reached into nearly every act of their daily life; while Spanish blood is diffused to a very large

extent throughout the archipelago. Yet one must not make the mistake of supposing that racial characteristics have been lost and that the Filipino is a Spaniard in all but birth. His characteristics are as pronounced today as when the Spaniards first arrived; and this forms one of the chief hopes for the greater future of the race. It has been remarked by a competent observer, the late James A. LeRoy, that the Filipino is virgin material ready to be worked upon, so little real impress did the Spanish contact make. This refers more especially to the *tao* or peasant class, and to the people of the remoter districts. Many Filipinos and others have had much to say about the so-called Filipino soul, by which is to be understood those qualities that are peculiarly Filipino. The best production has come from the eminent Spanish-Filipino scholar, Dr. Pardo de Tavera, who disclaims any especial monopoly of soul life for the Filipinos, beyond that which will allow them to take and assimilate the best wherever and however they might acquire it; and that those who fear lest the Filipino lose any of his characteristics that make for good and permanence may rest easy.

In the matters to be mentioned below in which the elements of race development may be seen, one very striking fact is discernible, namely, that in no case has the seed sown been due to native initiative. In each the force has been supplied by the governing or other outside people. Advance made before the American occupation was due in general to the Chinese or Spaniards. That of today is largely due to the American. Rizal, the greatest man produced by the Malay race, was over one-half Chinese. His education was largely European or western, and the ideals that he sought to implant or encourage were for the most part European or western. The very field of education, in which the Filipino shows his keenest interest, perhaps, is a striking proof of this. Whether in time a distinct initiative force can be supplied by the people themselves, and one that will be sufficient unto itself in moments of crisis and uncertainty, cannot yet be asserted. This lack of initiative is not necessarily a Filipino trait. It is well known that

the Spanish government, neither on its temporal nor its spiritual side, consciously encouraged the exercise of initiative, and that innovation in any form was frowned upon. Consequently, there is something in the argument which claims that the Filipino has hidden his true character and covered his real life with a true oriental impassiveness. To endow this people with the power of effective initiative for growth and progress—that is the self-imposed task of Americans here in the Philippines, and the latter nation would be untrue to itself if it hesitated or turned its back upon the work before it in these islands which came under its care by the most fortuitous of accidents. When the day comes on which it can be said that the task has been completed, then can the Filipinos, if they care for it, achieve their political independence and take their place among the nations of the world. And for this end the Filipinos must work even harder and more willingly than the Americans.<sup>1</sup>

In the following notes, some of the influences that are being thrown about the new Filipinos, and which contain possibilities for racial improvement will be discussed. Accordingly, it will be necessary to mention the educational, public-improvement, and health factors, although all three have been already treated in this JOURNAL.

## EDUCATION

### *Public schools*

Spain established public schools in the Philippines in the nineteenth century, but outside of Manila, they could scarcely be said to exist, and were, moreover, almost completely dominated by the ecclesiastical influence. Still Spain did honestly try to give to these Islands some real education, although the conditions of society both in the Peninsula and in the Philippines prevented the efforts from having the result that was to be desired.

Almost coeval with American occupancy, public schools modeled on the American system were established. Quite

<sup>1</sup> This was written before the Jones' bill was introduced into Congress.

naturally there have been mistakes, but progress is spelt by those very mistakes; and there will be other mistakes, for which God be thanked, if they teach the lesson to be learned from them. But there has been continuous progress from the beginning, and that is a good augury for the future. The first generation of Filipino youth trained by the American system and by American teachers is almost ready to step into the ranks and to take its proper place in the evolution of Filipino society. The importance of this must not be overlooked. It means that American ideals are permeating the rank and file of Filipino life, and are having a part in the shaping of future generations, although one must recognize that it is easy to be deceived as to the extent of their influence. There is an increase in many qualities that Americans consider desirable—straightforwardness, frankness, and self-control. No attempt is being made to refashion the Filipinos into Americans, but the government is endeavoring to make good Filipinos by giving them the dynamic force that comes from the best American ideals, while still preserving to them their best Filipino ideals.

The majority of the Filipinos have entered heartily into the educational plan. Indeed the desire for education is one of the most noticeable of their characteristics; and in general all Filipino legislators stand committed to the educational ideal. Regularity of attendance in the schools is constantly being pushed and is becoming an important factor, and this means an increase in efficiency to both pupil and teacher. New schools are being opened as rapidly as possible, but the greater stress is being laid on thoroughness and permanence in those schools now open. It is to be regretted that some schools have been closed recently because of lack of funds.

The actual work of teaching is entrusted to a corps of over 8000 Filipino and of almost 700 American teachers, and all teaching, incredible as it may seem, is in English. In itself, this fact is of great importance, for the Philippines with their many dialects have never had a common medium of communication. The Spanish language never penetrated the masses in the more than three centuries of Spanish domina-

tion as much as has the English in less than a decade and a half. In each village the children greet the American in his own language, and many of the older generation are anxious to show that they know some English, although it must be admitted that the brand is often very poor.

Special stress is being laid on industrial training, for it has been seen that pure classical training is out of place here in the majority of the schools. The Filipino has long been famous for his manual dexterity, and with proper training this can be turned to rich account. One is continually surprised as he examines the industrial and manual training exhibits of the schools at the annual Manila carnival. One commercial school has been established with good results. The high and normal schools and the university enable those attending them to reach the higher education. The dominant idea throughout is to prepare the Filipino youth for the life which he must fill, but not to close the door to something higher if he has the stamina and courage to reach out and grasp any opportunity that may be offered him.

The total result is a distinct and lasting element for racial improvement. The change has been so great that it has led foreigners who have lived in the islands for many years, during both the Spanish and American régimes, to note it and commend it and this is of greater value than if the praise came from Americans. The American teacher in the Philippines has by his unselfish labors and by his generally very moral conduct, gained the confidence of the Filipino to an amazing degree. From one end of the islands to the other the American teacher is welcome and is trusted. It is true that many parents still prefer to send their children to private and religious schools, especially the *ilustrado* or upper class. Yet the spirit of the public schools is making its entrance even into such institutions and their usefulness is expanding daily.

The public schools are exerting considerable force toward the growth of democracy here, the formation of a true middle class, and a realization of the dignity of labor. The permanent school buildings that have been constructed are serving as models for better and more permanent dwelling



houses. The small garden plots cultivated by the pupils as a part of their work are likewise serving as models for cultivation by the adults at their homes. Influences are exerted in continually new and unexpected directions, and it can be confidently asserted, with no fear of contradiction, that if (notwithstanding what often seems slow progress) American occupancy were to end tomorrow, the impulse given by the American teachers of the public schools would persist.

*The University of the Philippines*

As its name indicates the University of the Philippines is a government institution. It was created by the legislative act of June 18, 1908, with the avowed purpose of giving higher instruction in literature, philosophy, the sciences and arts, and technical and professional education. An important provision is that no one may be barred from entrance because of age, sex, nationality, religious belief, or political affiliation. The university comprises the colleges of liberal arts, law, medicine and surgery, veterinary medicine, agriculture, and fine arts. The faculties are composed of both Americans and Filipinos, with the exception of the last which consists of Filipinos and Spaniards. This is the first year in which it can be said that the university has fulfilled its function on a real university basis, notwithstanding that the first university commencement was held in March 1911.

The first president of the university was formally inducted into office on December 20, 1911, with appropriate and dignified services. In his address the president emphasized the three necessary elements that must be united in each member of a university faculty: teaching, original investigation, and living. Efficiency in both faculty and students is the primary end sought in a university, and this the president declared to be the end that would be sought in the University of the Philippines. The work of the university will bear fruit in the men and women trained therein and they will serve their country in many ways in its upward march toward the larger and freer life—in politics, in teaching, in the professions, and in other spheres.

Manila has long had a university, that of the Dominican Order, Santo Tomás, which last year celebrated its tercentenary. An attempt was made by the Spanish government to found a secular university here in the eighteenth century, but failure resulted. The University of the Philippines is, in a sense, its successor. There is room here for both universities in Manila, and both cannot fail to have a great future if they give the broad training that is necessary to fit the Filipinos for a life of service and usefulness. The University of Santo Tomás has been one of the elements in the civilizing of the Filipino, and it is still a great factor in the educational life here. The government has wisely adopted a standard to which all educational institutions must conform in order to receive recognition by the University of the Philippines, and this is productive of much good. A healthy competition between the two universities will redound to the benefit of the Filipinos and their country. The new university has as wonderful a life to live and as great service to perform as any of the state universities of the United States which are having so large a share in the raising of the level of the average.

### *The Philippine Library*

The third great factor in education, strictly considered as such, may be said to be the public library. The Philippine Library, although yet in its infancy, is to the Philippine Islands what the Library of Congress is to the United States. This library was created by the Philippine legislature by virtue of act no. 1935 enacted May 20, 1909. By that act, all existing collections of books wherever located, that belong to the insular government were consolidated into one library. The institution is thus unique as to organization. The nucleus of the consolidation was the former American Circulating Library of Manila, which was founded privately in 1900 as a memorial to those American soldiers and sailors who lost their lives in the Philippines. Both the work and expense proved too heavy, however, for the Association, and the following year it was transferred first

to the military and later to the civil government, with the proviso that the name was not to be changed and that the work among the soldiers and sailors was to be continued. Considerable aid was sent to the library by interested friends and societies in the United States. In 1905 it became a division of the bureau of education and was so maintained until the adoption of the act above mentioned, which was given full force on July 1, 1910. It is known now as the circulating division (American Circulating Library), of the Philippine Library, thus preserving its name, while its distinctive service to soldiers and sailors is still maintained and is even performed with greater facilities. The general collection of books of this division is rapidly growing and now numbers over 25,000 volumes in active use. Its books cover a wide range of interests, chief among which, in addition to the necessary fiction, are the so-called social sciences.

The Filipiniana division is one of the most interesting collections to be found anywhere. It owes its inception very largely to Dr. David P. Barrows, formerly director of the bureau of education here, who set aside some books of Spanish government collections and some especially purchased as a section of the American Circulating Library. Its greatest growth has come since the consolidation and its creation as a distinct division. It now possesses much of the rarest and most valuable of Filipiniana, while not a few of its pieces are, so far as known, unique. By the recent purchase of the private collection of Dr. José Rizal, and the Filipiniana collections of Mr. James A. LeRoy, Prof. Clemente J. Zulueta, and Dr. T. H. Pardo de Tavera, and the transfer of books from the executive bureau, this division can boast the largest collection of printed Filipinana in existence.

The two divisions above mentioned are housed together: the former has both American and Filipino attendants, while the latter has only Filipinos. They have but recently occupied the new quarters assigned to the library in a government building, and with more space at their disposal, have entered upon a new and larger life. In this building two

more divisions are being developed, namely, the public documents and the periodical divisions.

The science division of the library is located in the Bureau of Science Building. This division has risen from various small collections of books that began to be formed almost as soon as the bureau of government laboratories (the former name of the bureau of science) was created. These small collections were gradually consolidated into one and special rooms were devoted to their housing. The collection has expanded until now it contains more than forty thousand volumes, (most of which are in active use), and is in many respects the best scientific collection in the orient.

The law division of the library is divided into two sections, that of the supreme court and that of the attorney-general. These will naturally be consolidated into one collection whenever a special building is constructed for the courts. The books consist of reports, digests, treatises, and textbooks.

The small collection of the Philippine assembly is devoted in great part to books on legislation and parliamentary matters. Conspicuous on its shelves is the collection of Felipe G. Calderon, one of Manila's brightest young native lawyers who was stricken by death at the time of his greatest usefulness.

Lastly, each bureau possesses a collection of such books as are necessary for its work. The most noteworthy of such collections are those of the bureaus of agriculture, education, public works, and customs. In the various divisions and minor collections the Philippine Library contains considerably more than 100,000 volumes. As rapidly as possible the titles of all these works are being gathered into a central catalogue for the convenience of readers and investigators. This catalogue will eventually contain, not only the titles of all government-owned books but as well those of semi-public and private collections, in order that one may tell at a glance exactly what can be secured in Manila in any line of research. Thus there is an opportunity to make of the Philippine Library an institution second to none in the orient in point of usefulness. A room has been set aside in

the new quarters exclusively for the use of investigators, in which they may have books reserved for their special studies.

As an educative factor among the people, the influence of the library cannot be overestimated. This is true to a much greater extent than in the United States. It is an inspiring sight to see the numbers of young men and women who resort thither daily for purposes of reading and study. These are mainly the younger generation among the Filipinos whom the library is reaching, those in the public schools and in the university: it must be admitted that the pupils of private schools do not yet appreciate the value of the library so fully as the former. The teachers of the public schools throughout the archipelago are allowed free cards to the circulating division (for various reasons a small fee of five pesos annually is charged), and books of all sorts are constantly being sent to both American and Filipino teachers, with the far-reaching benefits that can be readily understood. The library acts, therefore, as a powerful aid in the spread of the English language throughout the islands and in this regard is a worthy competitor of the public schools. It reaches many people not in the schools, and is slowly but surely doing its part in the education of the masses, and consequently is not a small factor in the racial improvement of the Filipino.

#### PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

After the Spanish conquest of the Philippines, certain public improvements were carried on by the central government, but without any continuous and well established system. The first public improvements were somewhat of a negative character, being for the most part fortifications and other military works, and shipbuilding, and generally for these the labor employed was forced. Under the direct supervision of the central government in the nineteenth century some remarkably good roads were constructed and various other public works were carried on. But the little that was done, while exceedingly useful and practical, was a mere beginning and served as an object lesson of the great need for systematic efforts. The friars and the Jesuits

also made many improvements on their estates and in the villages and districts administered by them, although there was the same lack of system, and generally of practical and technical knowledge. Their work, however, served and still serves useful purposes. They were carried on for the most part under the same labor conditions as the government work. The "Economic Society of Friends of the Country," during its two periods of existence in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, encouraged and advocated public improvements with some little success, although its resources were never sufficient to accomplish much. All the improvements effected through these various agencies, although imperfect and slight, yet tended to develop the country by rendering communication easier, by providing better facilities for transportation, and by a general economic advance.

The program of public improvements for the Islands has grown steadily since American occupation; and is one that is proving, and will prove, far-reaching in its results. The government is fully alive to the importance of the development of the country through public improvement; and what is of far more consequence the people as a whole are coming to understand more clearly the efficacy of good roads, of navigable rivers, of good harbors, of irrigation, of parks and public playgrounds, and of abundance of pure drinking water. For the first time in the history of the islands systematic efforts have been inaugurated, and have been productive of good results.

In the brief period of American occupation, much has been done, but that is no reason for special self congratulation. Much more remains to be done. Only by means of good roads in all parts, by good canals and other water ways, by an efficient method of irrigation, and by other public improvements that will open up the country so that the wonderful productive climate and soil of these islands may be used to advantage, will the Philippines be able to assume their proper place and, like Java, become a garden of the orient. But all improvements must be undertaken with due regard to the revenues of the islands, or the extent to which bonds

may be safely issued. The Philippines, while potentially an extremely rich country, have not yet advanced to that economic affluence that renders possible the fullest public improvements. Each public improvement, however, brings nearer the time when this can be done.

The effect of public improvements on race development is obvious. By means of the material something is achieved in the realm of the mental and moral that creates a higher standard and ideal. This is what is happening here. It is no tale of sordid commercialism. The Filipino is raising his standard daily and the public improvements now being carried on form one of the factors. He may or may not be as happy as under the old régime. Indeed he is being touched with a very healthful discontent that is leading him to grasp at opportunity and to assume a greater direct responsibility.

#### HEALTH AND SANITATION

The orient offers a large and interesting field for the health movement, and of the orient, no section is more interesting or more important than the Philippines. The problems to be met here and the tasks to be accomplished are in general those of other tropical countries of the Far East, with this difference, that the comparatively limited extent (notwithstanding the number of islands) and population of the Philippines lend a greater element of hopefulness toward the solution and the fulfilment of them.

During the Spanish régime considerable attention was directed to the cure and prevention of epidemic disease—more especially by vaccination against smallpox which had long been endemic here, and which was always a serious menace. The municipal board of health in Manila accomplished some work worthy of mention, although the board met continual discouragement from lack of funds and of interest. Health efforts were mainly restricted to Manila and to several other centers, while the provinces at large suffered a great neglect. Reputable physicians were few and but seldom found in the provinces. Quacks, inade-

quately trained physicians (so-called, and often men who had obtained some little smattering of medicine in Manila, and some of whom were unable to pass their medical examinations) and apprentices with some superior intelligence and rudimentary training were commonly found in the provinces. In the provinces also the local priests (usually friars) often rendered what assistance lay in their power (and this was sometimes considerable), although the majority of them were wont to rely on the miraculous cures effected by the use of holy water. The quacks and apprentices have had much to answer for here in the matter of questionable and even criminal practices; but in most districts they were the only recourse outside of the self-administered home remedies of the people. Those remedies, too often indeed, consisted of a superstitious belief in the efficacy of certain observances and so-called cures, which are comparable, though much more common, to some superstitions still found among ignorant and credulous people in some parts of the United States. Much credit is due the hospitals for the work carried on by them. They were located, for the most part, in the large centers, the most important ones, being, of course, in Manila, and were usually in charge of religious persons. The Hospital Order of St. John of God labored with rare fidelity, and together with the secular Brotherhood of Mercy, was able to alleviate much suffering. The Economic Society of Friends of the Country also extended its many-sided labors for the betterment of medical practice during its short life. But one and all of these agencies were lacking in systematic effort. The principles of sanitation especially appear not to have been understood or to have been disregarded, and no effort of any moment was exerted toward the dissemination of hygienic and sanitary knowledge among the people.

Given such antecedent conditions the need for health measures and for systematic effort were naturally apparent at the very beginning of American occupation. The military and later the civil authorities were not slow in bending their best energies to the formidable task. The work of the board of health and of its successor, the bureau, cannot be given here in anything like the detail it merits, for the activi-



ties of the health movement have continually broadened and extended along many different lines, the ramifications of which reach to many of the acts of every-day life.<sup>2</sup> A peculiar disadvantage has been experienced because the people, as might well be imagined, have not understood the reasons for the existence of the health department and the necessity for its action. Its measures have often appeared drastic and an invasion of the private sanctity of the home, and on this account, as well as because of the ignorance of the common people progress has been hampered. Little by little, however, active hostility has lessened, and the people are daily coming to appreciate health and sanitation measures more nearly at their real value. Information has been disseminated by means of various publications, such as bulletins, circulars, and careful instructions and rules, and by means of health talks. These have been published and given in English, Spanish, and various of the native languages in order that they might reach as many of the people as possible. Personal contact and example are elements of strength in the health propaganda, and more has often been and is being accomplished by subtle suggestion than would be possible by direct force. The Roman Catholic Church and the bureau of education are aiding very materially by their hearty coöperation in the health movement. Such a simple thing as the introduction of the use of knife, fork and spoon bring large results.

One of the most important movements that has grown out of the efforts of the health authorities is the active anti-tuberculosis crusade now being waged. Tuberculosis is rampant throughout the lowlands of the Philippines where the moist climate is fit breeding place for this disease; but far more disastrous than the climate is the ignorance of the vast majority of Filipinos in the simplest matters of every-day living. The Filipino house or hut is really of sanitary construction. It is rendered a deathtrap by the careful exclusion of all night air during sleeping hours, as well as by overcrowding. It is by no means uncommon to see a

<sup>2</sup> See Dr. Heiser's article "Sanitation in the Philippines," in the October number of this JOURNAL.

whole family sleeping in a single room. Squalor and filth are the normal condition about many of the houses of the *tao* or peasant class. The custom of building clusters of huts indiscriminately together within one enclosure with inadequate entrance into the grounds from the exterior makes the accumulation of filth the more offensive and festering, and the overcrowding the more deadly. This neglect by the Filipino of conditions outside his house is an anachronism of his character, for he is generally scrupulously neat and cleanly about his person and clothing. American methods of living and the teaching of the public schools are having their effect on the sleeping customs and surroundings of the people, and in many places a decided improvement is to be noted, some villages presenting a pleasing contrast to others in this regard.

The struggle against this disease is being carried on chiefly by the Philippine Islands Anti-tuberculosis Society. This Society was established largely through the efforts of several Americans and Filipinos, and enjoys the hearty support and coöperation of the government, and in fact is so closely identified with the government that it is almost a government institution, at least in its management. It was incorporated July 10, 1910, and has acquired a very respectable membership, both among Americans and Filipinos, the nominal annual membership fee of two pesos not being prohibitive to anyone who is sincerely interested in the work. The government has loaned to the Society the grounds about the old water reservoir at San Juan del Monte just on the outskirts of Manila, for use as a sanitarium, while the legislature at its last session allotted the sum of 50,000 pesos to aid in the crusade. A Filipino physician is in charge of the sanitarium, and treatment is largely by the open-air method. About two score open-air cottages have been constructed by the Society, the government, and by interested business firms and private individuals. Free dispensaries and clinics have been established in various congested districts of Manila, each of which is in charge of a competent physician. Branch societies have been established in Iloilo, Cebu, Zamboanga, and Dumaguete.

All this is making an impress in the right direction. It cannot be said that tuberculosis has been lessened as yet, but some cases have been arrested. There is an earnestness back of the work that carries weight, and the ideas that the society is trying to propagate are daily gaining ground. The fact that the best people among the Filipinos are interested in the movement gives hope of speedier positive results. The natives of their own accord are having recourse to the sanitarium, dispensaries, and clinics for treatment and medicines, and are losing their deep-seated dread of such institutions. This in turn is lessening the oriental passiveness and fatalism that afflicts to a certain degree the Filipinos in common with all other peoples of the east.

The Philippine Medical School, now a part of the University and known as the College of Medicine and Surgery is a remarkably well equipped institution and is giving an up-to-date medical training to many young men and some young women. The far-reaching effects that the college must exert are apparent. The health of the Philippines and the freeing of the people from ignorance and superstition in regard to their bodies must in great part fall on the young men and women trained by it. It is they who must take up the vast work that is awaiting in the provinces. From the enthusiastic testimony of their instructors, the students are justifying their training and compare well with those of other countries. The real test of their capacity will come when they are thrown upon their own resources in places remote from all other help where quick and sane decision is a matter of life and death; and in the spirit of helpfulness and sympathy with which they go about their life-saving work.

Clinics are provided for the students of the college at the Philippine General Hospital, a government institution, as well as at the University and St. Paul's Hospitals, the first an Episcopal and the second a Roman Catholic institution. The first-named ranks among the hospitals of the world in its equipment and free clinic. The great majority of patients who seek admission to the hospital and the free clinic are Filipinos, and inquiries and requests are con-

stantly being received by mail, all of which is eloquent testimony of the confidence which is placed in it. The other two hospitals, although less well equipped, do not lag behind in the earnestness and thoroughness of their work.

Hand in hand with the making of physicians and surgeons goes the training of nurses, and this training is being given in each of the hospitals. Several classes have already graduated from each institution and have gone out into active service. The nurses have demonstrated their usefulness. The young Filipina women especially make excellent nurses, and will in due time share with Filipino physicians the health education of the provinces. One who has never been in the islands can scarcely appreciate what it means for a young Filipina woman to dedicate herself to the profession of nursing. The old Spanish education for women was along quite other lines. It required considerable courage for the pioneers to enter the nursing courses. They have shown fitness, gentleness, and enthusiasm for their tasks, and have met the conditions imposed with the highest of resolution. It is charged by some that both the Filipino physicians and surgeons have a tendency to lose their heads in moments of crisis when they must show their resourcefulness and depend entirely on themselves. I cannot attest the truth or falsity of this charge, but it would prove no wonder were there some element of truth in it. The Spanish training here, unfortunately, did not make for self-reliance, initiative, and resourcefulness.

The great infant mortality of the Philippines is most serious and is due in large measure to insufficient care and nourishment. The Filipino is fond of his children, and Filipino families live a happy united life, and as a rule get far more enjoyment than do Americans, but the greatest of ignorance prevails in regard to the proper care of infants. The Filipina mother, often for want of proper nourishment herself, is unable to suckle her child, and it is no uncommon sight to see a child of a few days fed on rice or bananas. The lack of proper diet is but one of the directions taken by the general ignorance of the Filipinos in the rearing of their offspring. The result is a fearful infant mortality. Over

one-half the deaths are of children less than one year old. The bureau of health early turned its attention to this matter, but it is one of the most difficult things in the islands to handle. After all these years the best that can be said is that signs of advance are just dimly to be discerned. Care of the mother during pregnancy, and of mother and child at birth is being urged. The ignorance and malpractice of so-called midwives have caused much suffering and calamity, and has led to the establishment of courses for the training of midwives. The infant mortality and ignorance in child rearing among the poorer classes in the large cities in the United States offer no true parallel to conditions here, where both are extreme. Advance in this most vital of tasks will be painfully slow and uncertain. As in many other directions the brunt of the efforts expended must fall upon the Filipino physicians and nurses.

Much aid in this work is being given by the society known as the *Gota de Leche* (Drop of Milk). This Society was founded in December 1906, by Americans and Filipinos, Dr. David J. Doherty, of Chicago, being its most prominent founder, and is now managed almost wholly, if not wholly, by Filipina women. The Society provides clean, pure milk for the feeding of infants, and in addition, instructs Filipina mothers in the diet and care of their infants, and the necessity for the greatest of cleanliness in all that pertains to home life. But after all this Society, it must be confessed, does not reach a very large per cent of the people for whom it is intended.

Yet one other element remains to be mentioned here—that of exercise and sport—which is making rapidly for race improvement. In all parts of the archipelago, the Filipino boy (and in the schools, the Filipina girl) is taking, as if by magic, to the idea of outdoor sport. Baseball, basketball, volleyball, tennis, and all the field sports to be witnessed at home in any of the college meets, are now a fully recognized part of child and adolescent life among Filipinos. The Filipino of the future will bring to his work more stamina, and a better physical machine on account of the enthusiasm with which he is taking to sport. Fairness, give and take,

readiness, are all being developed by this. The child life and adolescent period of the Filipinos are being enriched beyond all conception by their capacity for adopting these outdoor sports. This is really one of the most striking things to be seen in the Philippines today, and its effect will be proportionate to its healthy development.

### AGRICULTURE

The wealth of these islands is chiefly agricultural. Here lies the only source of supply for the world's abacá, commonly called "Manila hemp." The fiber wealth, apart from abacá, is considerable, rattans, various grasses, and other fibers abounding in great variety. Incredible as it may seem, over one thousand varieties of rice are grown here, and about thirty species of banana. Tobacco, sugar, cocoanuts, and hosts of fine fruits and vegetables thrive here. In short, the values of the land products of the Philippines, expressed in dollars and cents, fills up the greater part of the ledger of trade and operations.

Yet notwithstanding this, there is vast room for improvement. These islands can be made in cultivable area as productive as the great garden of Java. The immediate branch of the government concerned most intimately with the development of these agricultural interests is the Bureau of Agriculture, which is placed rightly (until perhaps a new department of government be formed) under the department of public instruction. However, closely connected with this development is the work of the bureau of public works in irrigation, and better methods of communication and transportation.

The work of the bureau of agriculture is two-fold—first, experimental, and second, purely instructive. By means of the first it is raising the value of the soil products through practical investigation carried on at its experimental stations and farms. By means of the second it is reaching the people directly and showing the farmers how to raise more and better crops by better, cheaper, and more careful methods of cultivation. The operations of the bureau

cover an extremely difficult field. It is no child's play to attempt to introduce new methods and carefulness where old methods and neglect have been ruling for centuries. Conservatism is too deeply rooted in all men to be broken through in a few brief years, especially in a land where everything until the present has been against the new method, and where, moreover, superstition has played no small part even in the working of the soil.

It is not my intention to review even cursorily the operations of the bureau of agriculture. A large volume could scarce do it justice. I wish simply to point out its importance in regard to the matter of race development. The direction of that improvement is obvious. Better method alone bespeaks a better intelligence or a development of the intellect. Better and more abundant food gives a better physique and makes for the sane mind. A balance on the credit side is an evidence of wealth. New and improved products show an advancing country. In short, the inherent benefits for which the bureau of agriculture stands in the Philippines are as far reaching as any other agency at work here.

Yet one other factor should be mentioned here because of its direct bearing on agriculture, namely, the veterinary work. This forms a very important part of the work of the bureau of agriculture. The official at the head of this division is also dean of the College of Veterinary Science of the University of the Philippines. The connection in efficiency is obvious. The two great problems before the veterinary division are the eradication of the rinderpest disease in cattle and the surra in horses, the first named being the more pressing. The rinderpest epizootic has deprived the farmers of many localities of the most valuable aid in their farming. The ungainly but useful carabao had become almost extinct in some districts. This was a most serious matter and the bureau very early turned its attention to the cause of this awful mortality. The course followed in other countries has been carefully studied in the hope of profiting by their experience. During the last two years, especially, the work has been constant and hopeful. The hostility

of the people has everywhere been encountered, for the element of segregation of sick animals has not been understood, and quite naturally the farmer who found himself temporarily unable to market his produce because he was not permitted to use his carabaos, could not entertain (in his ignorance of the reason) very friendly regard for the veterinary officials. However, the work has gone on steadily and has made substantial progress.

The College of Agriculture, which is a part of the University of the Philippines, is training scientifically young men for the practical work. These young men become so many nuclei of progress. They are learning the dignity of labor and the sanctity of the soil. They will help to stem the stampede, so natural in the Philippines, because of the old training, towards clerkships in government offices and, for many, nonentity, inefficiency, and disappointment.

#### CONCLUSION

The term "education" after all covers everything that looks toward race development here, if one accept the broader idea conveyed by the word rather than that of mere book learning. Schools and colleges and libraries are but a part of it all. The forces set in motion through them together with those set in motion through the several government and other agencies are bringing about a larger racial life for the Filipino. The country is now manifestly in the early stages of an evolution toward something better than it has yet experienced, but an evolution, it must not be forgotten partly made possible by the more than three centuries of Spanish domination. Of the threefold human development, the spiritual, as elsewhere, needs special care and emphasis that it may not suffer through an improper balance and the evolution thereby lose in force or be delayed.

As nowhere else in the world, perhaps, one can perceive results here, or, at least, tendencies. Efforts in all directions give indications that augur well—a fact that speaks volumes for the adaptability of the Filipino. The general resultant predicted by the indications is a race which can compete with other races because it has learned self control. The



schools, the workshop, the farm, the playground, are all aiding in this. The Filipinos are learning how to utilize their economic resources, as well as to estimate correctly the value of health and obedience to sanitary principles. Good health is having a tendency, as elsewhere, to lessen crime. Good health means also a doubling of economic efficiency. Immunity to disease and its consequent weakness is producing a man better fitted to compete with his fellow man. Even the great prison, Bilibid, the largest in the world, and yet, perhaps, the easiest managed, is aiding considerably in the evolution by the training of each prisoner in a trade, and in the giving of a rudimentary instruction, as well as by daily health exercise.

As a whole the people are gaining a new level, where insight is keener, necessities more numerous, and luxuries more desirable. Above I have indicated some of the factors that are bringing this about. Each factor is related to and inextricably bound up with the others. There is no such thing as isolation in factors. Halting and slow or even hopeless though the work and achievements may seem at times, there is steady progress. The result is a real evolution which with the lapse of time will gain the respect it merits.